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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT

50X1-HUM

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY China/Hungary/Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Hungarian Attempts to Improve Trade Relations
with Communist ChinaPLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Szabo¹, head of the import department of Technoimpex, Budapest, was in China investigating the following:
 - a. Chinese requirements of Hungarian machinery, machine tools, and the like.
 - b. Barter goods, such as metals, paints, and other items, which China can supply in payment for its imports from Hungary.
 - c. Transport possibilities between the two countries.
2. In the development of trade between China and the satellite countries the Czechs are far in the lead. They have secured for themselves the pick of Chinese barter goods. Furthermore, they have solved the transport problem by concluding a very favorable agreement with Polish shipping companies. When they do not require the whole of the shipping space available to them, they are prepared to cede the empty space to the Hungarians, but only in return for concessions from Hungary.
3. As a result of these transport difficulties and the lack of suitable Chinese barter goods, Hungarian exports to China are being held up. In particular, considerable quantities of Hungarian machines and machine tools are awaiting shipment. During his trip to China Szabo hopes to resolve these problems.

1. Comment. This may be Istvan Papp-Szabo.

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